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Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 3608

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: CODEL QUILLEN

REF BELGRADE 3541-C

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT OF AMERICA DAY REMARKS BY PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE:

2. APPROPRIATE GREETING OF OFFICIALS:

3. I AM PLEASED AND HONORED TO BE HERE TODAY AS THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT. I SHOULD LIKE TO PREFACE MY OWN BRIEF REMARKS BY READING A MESSAGE TO THE FAIR FROM PRESIDENT NIXON WHO WARMLY RECALLS HIS VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA THREE YEARS AGO AND PRESIDENT TITO'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

4. INSERT PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE.

5. IN RECENT TIMES, MAN HAS FOCUSSED HIS ENERGIES AND SKILLS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SEEKING PROGRESS TOWARD A BETTER LIFE FOR MANKIND. TODAY, WE ARE BEGINNING TO RECOGNIZE THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED IN THIS SEARCH FOR PROGRESS PARTICULARLY THE INCREASING IMPACT ON OUR SURROUNDINGS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE THE NEED FOR A NEW DETERMINATION
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THAT, WHILE WE INCREASE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF GOODS TO ACHIEVE A BETTER LIFE, WE MUST ALSO ENSURE THE QUALITY OF THE TOTAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH WE AND OUR DESCENDANTS MUST LIVE.

6. WISELY USED, TECHNOLOGY IS A GREAT BLESSING; USED IRRESPONSIBLY OR CARELESSLY IT CAN BECOME A CURSE. TODAY IN UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY WE SEEK TO HAVE IT SERVE BOTH "PROGRESS AND ENVIRONMENT." IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT SOME OF THE EARLIEST AND LOUDEST ALARMS OVER THE FATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT IN THE FACT OF PROGRESS WERE SOUNDED IN THE UNITED STATES, A COUNTRY WHICH HAS A VERY STRONG RECORD OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. IN YUGOSLAVIA WHERE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY RAPID IN RECENT YEARS, THE RELATIONSHIP OF PROGRESS TO THE ENVIRONMENT HAS RECENTLY BECOME A MATTER OF KEEN PUBLIC INTEREST.

7. PROBLEMS AND DIMENSIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION EVERYWHERE ARE STAGGERING. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE UNITED STATES ALONE, 281 MILLION TONS OF MANMADE POLLUTANTS ARE RELEASED INTO THE ATMOSPHERE ANNUALLY; NEARLY ONE-QUARTER OF OUR RIVERS ARE POLLUTED ALONG HALF THEIR LENGTH; MAJOR SECTIONS OF THE GREAT LAKES BECOME BIOLOGICALLY DEAD BECAUSE OF OXYGEN-CONSUMING WASTES; SEVEN MILLION ABANDONED AUTOMOBILES, 20 MILLION TONS OF WASTE PAPER, 48 BILLION USED CANS, 26 BILLION DISCARDED BOTTLES, LITTER THE LANDSCAPE; SEWAGE, SHIPPING AND OIL SPILLAGE THREATEN VALUABLE RECREATIONAL AND FISHING AREAS ALONG OUR COASTS. NOISE IN AMERICAN CITIES HAS BEEN ESTIMATED TO DOUBLE EVERY TEN YEARS.

8. COMPARABLE STATISTICS IN VARYING DEGREE APPLY TO EVERY INDUSTRIAL AREA OF THE WORLD. TO DISCOVER AND PUBLISH THESE FACTS WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE LONG PROVESS OF CORRECTING THEM. NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONDED TO THIS NEW SET OF PROBLEMS, SLOWLY AT FIRST, BUT WITH ATHERING MOMENTUM AS THE TRUE MAGNITUDE OF THE CHALLENGE BECAME CLEAR. IN THE UNITED STATES, GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND PRIVATE CITIZENS ALL TURNED TO THE TASK OF FIXING STANDARDS AND ENFORCING THEM. AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WAS FOUNDED TO CONTROL AIR, WATER AND SOLID WASTE POLLUTION. COSTS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL AND ABATEMENT IN THE PERIOD 1970-1975 HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY PROJECTED AT 105 BILLION DOLLARS.
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9. THESE EFFORTS HAVE ALREADY HAD A NOTABLE EFFECT. THE LEVEL OF MAJOR AIR POLLUTANTS HAS DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS IN MOST OF OUR CITIES. OUR LANDSCAPE IS BEING CLEARED OF TRASH AND DEBRIS, AND OUR WATERS ARE GRADUALLY BEING PURGED OF POISONOUS WASTES. THERE REMAIN ENORMOUS TASKS STILL TO BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ALL AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BUT RESULTS DEMONSTRATE THAT

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PROBLEMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ARE SOLUBLE IF PEOPLE HAVE THE WILL AND RESOURCES ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO DO THE JOB. SOME OF THE SAME INDUSTRIES AND RESEARCH LABORATORIES WHICH HAVE SERVED THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD FOR DECADES AS SOURCES OF BETTER PRODUCTS AND MORE EFFICIENT PROCESSES ARE NOW BEING DEVOTED TO THE SEARCH FOR BETTER, LESS EXPENSIVE WAYS TO REDUCE POLLUTION AND RESTORE ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCE.

10. THROUGH NEW TECHNOLOGY, SUCH AS WE SEE HERE TODAY, AND WISE PLANNING, THERE IS NO REASON WHY SOCIETIES EVERY-WHERE CANNOT MEET THE CHALLENGE AND ACHIEVE BOTH HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY AND A STABLE ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCE. I THINK ALL OF YOU WILL AGREE THAT THE GOAL IS CERRTAINLY WORTHY AND EVEN ESSENTIAL. IT BEHOOVES ALL OF US TO BE GENEROUS IN APPLYING OUR SKILLS AND RESOURCES TO BRING IT ABOUT.

11. AND NOW MAY I INVITE YOU TO JOIN ME IN INSPECTING THE U.S. EXHIBIT FOR 1973 WHICH IS DEVOTED TO THE THEME OF "PROGRESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT."
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